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Examiner: Dwayne K. Handy

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Commissioner for Patents

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P.O. Box 1450

May 10, 2006

Signature ---

Name

Date of Deposit

Patent Application No. 09/780,804 Attorney Docket No. 81841.0183

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit:

In reapplication of:

David L. GOODALE, et al.

Serial No: 09/780,804

Confirmation No.: 8653

Filed

February 9, 2001

For: LATCH SYSTEM AND MODIFIED

BLADE DESIGN FOR THICK STOPPER-CLOSED CONTAINER SAMPLE PIERCING STATION

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136, Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for a one-month extension of time extending to May 20, 2006, the period for response to the Final Office Action dated January 20, 2006. Please charge the fee of \$120 for this extension to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. The responsive paper(s) are attached.

Please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. :0-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Wei-Ning Yang (contact person)

Registration No. 38,690 Attorney for Applicant(s)

Barry M. Shuman

Registration No. 50,220

Dato: May 10, 2006

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PAGE 4/16 * RCVD AT 5/10/2006 6:13:02 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-5/22 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:+2133376701 * DURATION (mm-ss):04-02